



NEWS RELEASE

WYOMING DISTRICT OFFICE

Release Date: April 27, 2005
Release Number: 05-10

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Steve Elledge Named Financial Services Champion of the Year 2004

Casper – The Wyoming District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has named Steve Elledge, Wyoming Business Council's East-Central Regional Director and who serves as Director of Field Operations overseeing the WBC's six regional offices, as Financial Services Champion of the Year 2005. On Friday, May 6, 2005, at the Casper Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, Steve Despain, District Director, will be presenting Mr. Elledge with this award.

This award is given to an individual who assists small businesses in obtaining financing, either directly or indirectly or through advocacy efforts to increase the availability of financial services. The President of the United States recognizes contributions of the small business community to the American economy and society by proclamation each year.

Steve spent 15+ years in the oil business, ten in refining and five in exploration and production. Since that time, Steve has served as Director of the Casper College Center of the Wyoming Small Business Development Center network, Vice President of the Casper Area Economic Development Alliance, and worked in a variety of management positions in private industry. Steve also has experience as an owner/investor in a variety of small business ventures. He joined the Wyoming Business Council in July of 1999.

Steve Elledge's customers receive his financial wisdom and counseling that only a caring and competent person can give. "Steve served as the President of the board of Directors of Frontier Certified Development Company as we struggled to bring an inactive CDC back to life," writes his nominator, Diane Johnston, President, WIDC/Frontier Certified Development Company.

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